IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 26, 49, 80, 104, and 105 have been amended herein. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible polymer, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the polymer and form a gel therewith,; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the duration of time is from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is a copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is a polylactide.

4. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is a caprolactone-based polymer.

5. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is a lactic acid-based polymer.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 2, wherein the polymer has L/G ratio of about 50:50 to about 100:0 and a molecular weight ranging from about 3,000 to about 120,000.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, comprising about 5 wt.% to about 90 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

8. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 7, comprising about 25 wt.% to about 80 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

9. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 7, comprising about 35 wt.% to about 75 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

10. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the duration of time is equal to or greater than three months after administration.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 6 months after administration.

12. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 9 months after administration.

13. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the duration of time is from about 6 months to about 9 months after administration.

14. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the viscous gel further comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, caprolactone-based polymers, poly(caprolactone), polyanhydrides, polyamines, polyesteramides, polyorthoesters, polydioxanones, polyacetals, polyketals, polycarbonates, polyphosphoesters, polyesters, polybutylene terephthalate, polyorthocarbonates, polyphosphazenes, succinates, poly(malic acid), poly(amino acids), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyhydroxycellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, hyaluronic acid, and copolymers, terpolymers and mixtures thereof, and biodegradable polymers and their copolymers including caprolactone-based polymers, polycaprolactones and copolymers which include polybutylene terephthalate.

15. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, further including at least one of the following: a pore former; a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent; and an osmotic agent.

16. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the solvent comprises a component solvent selected from the group consisting of triacetin, diacetin, tributyrin, triethyl citrate, tributyl citrate, acetyl triethyl citrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylglycerides, triethyl phosphate, diethyl phthalate, diethyl tartrate, mineral oil, polybutene, silicone fluid, glycerin, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, octanol, ethyl lactate, propylene glycol, propylene carbonate, ethylene -carbonate, butyrolactone, ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, 2-pyrrolidone, glycerol formal, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, caprolactam, decylmethylsulfoxide, oleic acid, and 1-dodecylaza-cyclo-heptan-2-one, and mixtures thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the solvent is selected from an aromatic alcohol, lower alkyl and aralkyl esters of aryl acids; aryl, aralkyl and lower alkyl ketones; and lower alkyl esters of citric acid.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the solvent is benzyl alcohol.

19. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the solvent is benzyl benzoate.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim1, wherein the solvent is ethyl benzoate.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is free of solvents having a miscibility in water that is greater than 7 wt.% at 25° C.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the delivery is a systemic delivery.

23. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the delivery is a local delivery.

24. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the delivery is repeated after a period of time.

25. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the delivery is provided at multiple sites.

26. (Currently amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible polymer, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers

including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the polymer and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the beneficial agent is delivered systemically in a controlled manner over the duration of time the duration of time being from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

27. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the polymer is a copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.

28. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the polymer is a polylactide.

29. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 26, wherein the polymer is a caprolactone-based polymer.

30. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 26, wherein the polymer is a lactic acid-based polymer.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 27, wherein the polymer has L/G ratio of about 50:50 to about 100:0 and a molecular weight ranging from about 3,000 to about 120,000.

32. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, comprising about 5 wt.% to about 90 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, comprising about 25 wt.% to about 80 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, comprising about 35 wt.% to about 75 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the duration of time is equal to or greater than three months after administration.

36. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 6 months after administration.

37. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 9 months after administration.

38. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the duration of time is from about 6 months to about 9 months after administration.

39. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the viscous gel further comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, caprolactone-based polymers, poly(caprolactone), polyanhydrides, polyamines, polyesteramides, polyorthoesters, polydioxanones, polyacetals, polyketals, polycarbonates, polyphosphoesters, polyesters, polybutylene terephthalate, polyorthocarbonates, polyphosphazenes, succinates, poly(malic acid), poly(amino acids), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyhydroxycellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, hyaluronic acid, and copolymers, terpolymers and mixtures thereof.

40. (Original) The composition of claim 26, further including at least one of the following: a pore former; a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent; and an osmotic agent.

41. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the solvent comprises a component solvent selected from the group consisting of triacetin, diacetin,

tributyrin, triethyl citrate, tributyl citrate, acetyl triethyl citrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylglycerides, triethyl phosphate, diethyl phthalate, diethyl tartrate, mineral oil, polybutene, silicone fluid, glycerin, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, octanol, ethyl lactate, propylene glycol, propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butyrolactone, ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, 2-pyrrolidone, glycerol formal, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, caprolactam, decylmethylsulfoxide, oleic acid, and 1-dodecylazacyclo-heptan-2-one, and mixtures thereof.

42. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the solvent is selected from an aromatic alcohol, lower alkyl and aralkyl esters of aryl acids; aryl, aralkyl and lower alkyl ketones; and lower alkyl esters of citric acid.

43. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the solvent is benzyl alcohol.

44. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the solvent is benzyl benzoate.

45. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the solvent is ethyl benzoate.

46. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein the composition is free of solvents having a miscibility in water that is greater than 7 wt.% at 25° C.

47. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the delivery is repeated after a period of time.

48. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the delivery is provided at multiple sites.

49. (Currently amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible polymer, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the polymer and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the beneficial agent is delivered locally in a controlled manner over a duration of time is from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

50. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the polymer is a copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.

51. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the polymer is a polylactide.

52. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 49, wherein the polymer is a caprolactone-based polymer.

53. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 49, wherein the polymer is a lactic acid-based polymer.

54. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the polymer has L/G ratio of about 50:50 to about 100:0 and a molecular weight ranging from about 3,000 to about 120,000.

55. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, comprising about 5 wt.% to about 90 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

56. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 55, comprising about 25 wt.% to about 80 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

57. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 56, comprising about 35 wt.% to about 75 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible polymer.

58. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the duration of time is equal to or greater than three months after administration.

59. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 6 months after administration.

60. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 9 months after administration.

61. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the duration of time is from about 6 months to about 9 months after administration.

62. (Original) The composition of claim 49,wherein the viscous gel further comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, caprolactone-based polymers, poly(caprolactone), polyanhydrides, polyamines, polyesteramides, polyorthoesters, polydioxanones, polyacetals, polyketals, polycarbonates, polyphosphoesters, polyesters, polybutylene terephthalate, polyorthocarbonates, polyphosphazenes, succinates, poly(malic acid), poly(amino acids), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyhydroxycellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, hyaluronic acid, and copolymers, terpolymers and mixtures thereof.

63. (Original) The composition of claim 49, further including at least one of the following: a pore former; a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent; and an osmotic agent.

64. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the solvent comprises a component solvent selected from the group consisting of triacetin, diacetin, tributyrin, triethyl citrate, tributyl citrate, acetyl triethyl citrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylglycerides, triethyl phosphate, diethyl phthalate, diethyl tartrate, mineral oil, polybutene, silicone fluid, glycerin, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, octanol, ethyl lactate, propylene glycol, propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butyrolactone, ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, 2-pyrrolidone, glycerol formal, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, caprolactam, decylmethylsulfoxide, oleic acid, and 1-dodecylazacyclo-heptan-2-one, and mixtures thereof.

65. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the solvent is selected from an aromatic alcohol, lower alkyl and aralkyl esters of aryl acids; aryl, aralkyl and lower alkyl ketones; and lower alkyl esters of citric acid.

66. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the solvent is benzyl alcohol.

67. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the solvent is benzyl benzoate.

68. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the solvent is ethyl benzoate.

69. (Original) The composition of claim 49, wherein the composition is free of solvents having a miscibility in water that is greater than 7 wt.% at 25° C.

70. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the delivery is repeated after a period of time.

71. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 49, wherein the delivery is provided at multiple sites.

72. (Withdrawn) A method of administering a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(i) administering to a subject:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible polymer polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the polymer and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel; and

(ii) delivering the beneficial agent to the subject over a duration of time from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

73. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 72, further comprising systemically delivering the beneficial agent to the subject in a controlled manner.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 72, further comprising repeating the delivering step (ii) after a period of time.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 73, further comprising repeating the delivering step (ii) after a period of time.

76. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 72, further comprising locally delivering the beneficial agent to the subject in a controlled manner.

77. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising repeating the delivery step (ii) after a period of time.

78. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising conducting the delivery step (ii) at multiple sites.

79. (Withdrawn) A kit for administration for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a bioerodible, biocompatible polymer;

(b) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the polymer and form a gel therewith;

(c) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel; and optionally, one or more of the following:

(d) an emulsifying agent;

(e) a pore former;

(f) a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent, optionally associated with the beneficial agent; and

(g) an osmotic agent;

wherein at least the beneficial agent, optionally associated with the solubility modulator, is maintained separated from the solvent until the time of administration of the beneficial agent to the subject.

80. (Currently amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible blend of polymers, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an

amount effective to plasticize the blend of the polymers and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the duration of time is from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

81. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the blend of the polymers includes a copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.

82. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 80, wherein the blend of the polymers includes a polylactide.

83. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 80, wherein the blend of the polymers includes a caprolactone-based polymer.

84. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the blend of the polymers includes a polymer having an L/G ratio of about 50:50 to about 100:0 and a molecular weight ranging from about 3,000 to about 120,000.

85. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, comprising about 5 wt.% to about 90 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible blend of the polymers.

86. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 85, comprising about 25 wt.% to about 80 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible blend of the polymers.

87. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 85, comprising about 35 wt.% to about 75 wt.% of the bioerodible, biocompatible blend of the polymers.

88. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the duration of time is equal to or greater than three months after administration.

89. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 6 months after administration.

90. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the duration of time is from about 3 months to about 9 months after administration.

91. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the duration of time is from about 6 months to about 9 months after administration.

92. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the viscous gel further comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, caprolactone-based polymers, poly(caprolactone), polyanhydrides, polyamines, polyesteramides, polyorthoesters, polydioxanones, polyacetals, polyketals, polycarbonates, polyphosphoesters, polyesters, polybutylene terephthalate, polyorthocarbonates, polyphosphazenes, succinates, poly(malic acid), poly(amino acids), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyhydroxycellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, hyaluronic acid, and copolymers, terpolymers and mixtures thereof.

93. (Original) The composition of claim 80, further including at least one of the following: a pore former; a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent; and an osmotic agent.

94. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the solvent comprises a component solvent selected from the group consisting of triacetin, diacetin, tributyrin, triethyl citrate, tributyl citrate, acetyl triethyl citrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylglycerides, triethyl phosphate, diethyl phthalate, diethyl tartrate, mineral oil, polybutene, silicone fluid, glycerin, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, octanol, ethyl lactate, propylene

glycol, propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butyrolactone, ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, 2-pyrrolidone, glycerol formal, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, caprolactam, decylmethylsulfoxide, oleic acid, and 1-dodecylazacyclo-heptan-2-one, and mixtures thereof.

95. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the solvent is selected from an aromatic alcohol, lower alkyl and aralkyl esters of aryl acids; aryl, aralkyl and lower alkyl ketones; and lower alkyl esters of citric acid.

96. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the solvent is benzyl alcohol.

97. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the solvent is benzyl benzoate.

98. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the solvent is ethyl benzoate.

99. (Original) The composition of claim 80, wherein the composition is free of solvents having a miscibility in water that is greater than 7 wt.% at 25° C.

100. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the delivery is a systemic delivery.

101. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the delivery is a local delivery.

102. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the delivery is repeated after a period of time.

103. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 80, wherein the delivery is provided at multiple sites.

104. (Currently Amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible blend of polymers, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the blend of the polymers and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the beneficial agent is delivered systemically in a controlled manner over a duration of time from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

105. (Currently Amended) An injectable depot composition for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible blend of polymers, wherein the polymer is a blend of polymers including at least one lactic acid-based polymer and wherein the blend of polymers has a monomer ratio of at least 50% lactic acid-based polymer; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the blend of the polymers and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel;

wherein the beneficial agent is delivered locally in a controlled manner over a duration of time from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

106. (Withdrawn) A method of administering a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(i) administering to a subject:

(a) a viscous gel formulation comprising:

(1) a bioerodible, biocompatible blend of polymers; and

(2) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the blend of the polymers and form a gel therewith; and

(b) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel; and

(ii) delivering the beneficial agent to the subject over a duration of time from about two weeks to about twelve months after administration.

107. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 106, further comprising systemically delivering the beneficial agent to the subject in a controlled manner.

108. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 106, further comprising repeating the delivering step (ii) after a period of time.

109. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 107, further comprising repeating the delivering step (ii) after a period of time.

110. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 106, further comprising locally delivering the beneficial agent to the subject in a controlled manner.

111. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 110, further comprising repeating the delivery step (ii) after a period of time.

112. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 110, further comprising conducting the delivery step (ii) at multiple sites.

113. (Withdrawn) A kit for administration for sustained delivery of a beneficial agent to a subject in a controlled manner over a predetermined duration of time after administration comprising:

(a) a bioerodible, biocompatible blend of polymers;

(b) a solvent having a miscibility in water of less than or equal to 7 wt.% at 25° C, in an amount effective to plasticize the blend of the polymers and form a gel therewith;

(c) a beneficial agent dissolved or dispersed in the gel; and optionally, one or more of the following:

(d) an emulsifying agent;

(e) a pore former;

(f) a solubility modulator for the beneficial agent, optionally associated with the beneficial agent; and

(g) an osmotic agent;

wherein at least the beneficial agent, optionally associated with the solubility modulator, is maintained separated from the solvent until the time of administration of the beneficial agent to the subject.